DRIVE CONNECTIVITY PANEL

All across industry, users of ABB variable-speed drives have been looking for a plug-and-play way to combine internet connectivity, data collection, cloud analytics and visualization. Now, with ABB's pioneering Drive Connectivity Panel, they need look no longer. Just minutes after installing the Connectivity Panel, data can be analyzed in the cloud portal.

The Drive Connectivity Panel collects the drive's operational data and sends it directly to the cloud via a cellular network, using narrow-band Internet of Things (NB-IoT). The Drive Connectivity Panel is the only product on the market that enables cloud connection without occupying a data collection I/O port. Data transfer is also kept safe as it is encrypted within the panel and uploaded via the secure NB-IoT cellular network – dedicated to industrial devices – to the ABB Ability™ cloud platform.

The availability of the latest mobile technology means that when the panel is located in an area with normal signal coverage, it can interact with the cloud services – even if the drive is installed in the basement.

The NB-IoT solution is ideal for condition monitoring in applications requiring a basic level of equipment analytics and alarm notifications but that use low data volumes. Continuous data uploads allow remote health monitoring of ABB drives, event notifications, operational KPI generation and parameter trend creation. Drive health and performance are visualized in an easy-to-interpret way. The panel's Bluetooth interface enables an on-demand remote assistance service – ABB Ability™ Mobile Connect for drives – via the Drivetune mobile app.

The Drive Connectivity Panel-based condition monitoring solution is available for purchase in China and is being piloted in Europe and the United States. •